

Message Text

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12

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00 AID-20

XMB-07 FEA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 PA-04

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R 030730Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0747

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DANASCUS

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION OECD PRARIS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

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BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR EAID EINV EG KU

SUBJ: EGYPTIAN-KUWAITI JOINT VENTURES

REF: CAIRO 6583, KUWAIT 3602

1. IN ANSWER MY QUERY AUG 29, MINFINANCE & OIL ATEEQI SAID HE HAD NO INFORMATION SUBSTANTIATING PRESS REPORTS THAT EGYPTIAN GOVT HAD OFFICIALLY ASKED KUWAIT ABANDON JOINT PROJECTS IN EGYPT. ATEEQI ADDED THAT IN ANY CASE EVERY SOVEREIGN STATE HAD RIGHT TO DECIDE WHAT WAS IN ITS OWN INTEREST; IF EGYPTIANS HAD AT ANY TIME BETTER OFFERS ON PROJECTS IN THEIR COUNTRY THAN THOSE OFFERED BY

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KUWAITIS, THEY SHOULD TAKE THEM. KUWAIT CERTAINLY FOLLOWED THAT

PRINCIPLE. IN FACT, OPINED ATEEQI, THE MORE FOREIGN COUNTRIES
THERE WERE THAT COOPERATED ECONOMICALLY WITH EGYPT, THE BETTER.

2. COMMENT: IT SEEMS CLEAR THERE IS NO OFFICIAL MISUNDER-
STANDING BETWEEN GOE AND GOK ON ECONOMIC COOPERATION. ON OTHER
HAND WE HAVE HEARD THAT SOME KUWAITI BUSINESSMEN HAVE RECENTLY
BEEN TO EGYPT TO CLOSE DEALS ONLY TO FIND THEY HAD LOST OUT TO
OTHERS. (THEY ARE PROBABLY THE SOURCE OF PRESS STORIES HERE.)
SINCE KUWAITI PRIVATE ENTERPRISE HAS RECENTLY SHOWN ENTHUSIASTIC
INTEREST IN EGYPT, AND EGYPT NEEDS FOREIGN INVESTMENT, IT DOES
NOT SEEM LIKELY THAT KUWAITI BUSINESSMEN WILL LONG REMAIN
DISCOURAGED BY ANY SETBACKS THEY HAVE EXPERIENCED THERE SO FAR.
STOLTZFUS

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